



RIVER TRACKS

News and information for Middle Fork floaters



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LAUNCH SITES: The Boundary Creek and Indian Creek Guard Stations are both open and issuing permits. The offices are open daily from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm. Indian Creek has potable water, but the Boundary Creek water system test results are not in yet.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: The district maintains a Middle Fork river information web page with current information and links to detailed trip information. You can find specifics about number of people and days allowed, required equipment details, what to expect when you check in, boat inspection protocols, a list of the river camps, pictures and details about the four new rivers camps, season pass order forms (not sold at the launch sites), and a link to the Middle Fork water level. You can find all of this at the following web page:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/scnf/recreation/wateractivities/?cid=stelprdb5302105>

AIS STICKERS: Your boats must be inspected by Forest Service personnel before going into the eddy, and should be cleaned, drained and dry to avoid transporting unwanted aquatic species. The guards will need to see 2013 Idaho Invasive Species stickers for all boats when they inspect your boats and check your required equipment. **These stickers are NOT available at the launch sites.** Visit Idaho's website: www.invasivespecies.idaho.gov or call 1-800-247-6332 for more information and purchase options.

WASTE BAGS FOR TOILETS: These types of potties are only acceptable for self-contained kayak groups or for use as a day potty. These compact dry toilet systems are not SCAT machine compatible and will only be acceptable for the Human Waste Carry-out Requirements on the Main and Middle Fork Salmon Rivers for self-contained kayakers if they meet EPA waste standards and their waste bags can be disposed of in landfills. These systems must be accompanied by a waterproof container to hold the used waste bags.

HAZARD TREES AND CAMPS: Forest Service personnel have begun removing hazard trees. This effort to remove the most hazardous trees at camps this season may require closure of some camps for extended periods while crews fall and blast trees. Boaters may also have to eddy out when blasting is planned; watch for flaggers along the banks. Not all hazard trees are



removed. People still need to be careful of overhead hazards, and choose their sleeping areas with this in mind.

MARSH CREEK: A boater reported one log spanning Marsh Creek about a mile and a half above the confluence with Bear Valley Creek; this float occurred on May 25th. After last year's Halstead Fire, boaters should expect especially dangerous conditions on Marsh Creek. Using rafts or cats on Marsh Creek can be very risky – use extreme caution or consider another type of craft.

Watch for the fish trap in Marsh Creek. Also check the redd maps to avoid disturbing last fall's chinook redd sites.

Marsh/Bear Valley boaters: plan your trip so your reserved launch date is the first date the boats will be below Dagger Falls. The permitted section begins at Dagger Falls, so boats cannot be below this point until the launch date.

ROAD WORK 2013 – visit <http://511.idaho.gov/> for the latest information.

Highway 75 Traffic Delays: Traffic reduced to one lane with delays of 15 minutes or less; width limit of 12' in effect. Work is occurring between Robinson Bar Road (14 miles north of the Stanley area) and Slate Creek Road (15 miles south of the Clayton area).

Please check for other road work projects that may affect your travels.

LAUNCHING BELOW INDIAN CREEK? Boaters launching downstream of Indian Creek will need to contact the Middle Fork District **at least 3 work days** prior to their launch date to get their permit.

SALMON REDDS: Boaters are advised to watch for last fall's chinook salmon redds and avoid disturbing these sites. Look for the redd maps on the Middle Fork web page (link at the bottom of this page).